

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
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INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU
AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI
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SECSTATE WASHDC 7528

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USIAC

FOR IEA AND ICS/D, CINCPAC FOR USIA ADVISOR, CHIANG MAI V SEAIGRARN FO
R BRANCH PAO, STATE FOR CU/EA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS -- DECEMBER 17 - 23, 1976

MEDIA CONCERNS:

THE CROWN PRINCE'S ENGAGEMENT AND IMPENDING MARRIAGE, AND PRIME
MINISTER THANIN'S VISIT TO MANILA WERE THE MAJOR FOCUS OF THAI
ELECTRONIC AND PRINT MEDIA THIS WEEK.

THANIN ALSO ATTACKED THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS FOR ITS
"DISTORTED" REPORTAGE OF THE OCTOBER 6 COUP. MEANWHILE,
OUTSPOKEN INTERIOR MINISTER SAMAK SUNTHORNWET STEPPED UP HIS
ATTACKS ON THAI NEWSPAPERS, IN THIS INSTANCE ACCUSING CONSER-
VATIVE SIAM RATH OF HARBORING COMMUNISTS. FORMER PRIME MINISTER
KUKRIT PRAMOJ, WHO WRITES A COLUMN IN SIAM RATH AND REPORTEDLY
STILL OWNS THE PAPER (ALTHOUGH HE SAYS HIS SHARES HAVE BEEN
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TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER PERSON), REPLIED TO SAMAK'S CHARGE WITH
HIS CHARACTERISTIC INSOUCIANCE, RIDICULING THE MATTER.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

1. POST PRESENTED DECEMBER 17 VTR SHOWING OF AGENCY'S TWO PART SERIES "VIDEOTAPE PRODUCTION" TO AN AUDIENCE OF 20 GRADUATE STUDENTS AND 3 FACULTY MEMBERS OF PRASARNMITR UNIVERSITY'S COLLEGE OF MASS COMMUNICATION. THE TWO 60 MINUTE PROGRAMS WHICH DEAL WITH ALL ASPECTS OF VTR PRODUCTION FROM THE INITIAL SETUP TO THE FINAL SHOOTING WERE WATCHED CLOSELY BY THE AUDIENCE AND A REQUEST WAS MADE FOR A FURTHER SHOWING OF THE SERIES TO GIVE STUDENTS AND FACULTY A SECOND OPPORTUNITY TO STUDY THE TECHNIQUES ILLUSTRATED. SAME GROUP WILL VISIT POST'S VTR STUDIOS DECEMBER 29 FOR AN ON-THE-SPOT TRAINING PROGRAM IN PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES.

2. DR. CHOW LOY TOM, UNIVERSITY OF DENVER LIBRARY SCHOOL, SPOKE TO A GROUP OF 20 LIBRARIANS DECEMBER 21 ON THE SUBJECT "CURRENT TRENDS IN LIBRARY EDUCATION IN THE U.S." DR. TOM ILLUSTRATED HER TALK WITH 60 SLIDES SHOWING THE EXTENSIVE USE OF COMPUTERS, MICROFICHE AND OTHER MODERN COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES IN U.S. LIBRARIES.

3. AGENCY EXHIBIT OF AMERICAN STUDENTS' ENVIRONMENT ART INSPIRED LABORATORY SCHOOL AT KASETSART UNIVERSITY TO EVOKE A SIMILAR EFFORT FROM THEIR STUDENTS. RESULT WAS AN EXCELLENT COMBINED EXHIBITION OF THE AMERICAN AND THAI STUDENTS ART ON ECOLOGICAL THEMES. OPENING OF EXHIBIT DREW A GOOD CROWN TO THE SCHOOL AND SUBSEQUENT NEWSPAPER ATTENTION.
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